



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Russell Evan Thorson et al. Docket No.: 19519  
Serial No.: 10/734,743 Group No.: Unknown  
Confirmation No.: Unknown Examiner: Unknown  
Filed: December 12, 2003  
For: METHOD OF FORMING A WAIST BAND ON AN ABSORBENT ARTICLE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

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I hereby certify that the attached correspondence comprising:

Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)  
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date  
6 Page(s) of PTO Form 1449  
41 Document(s)

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## In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant: Russell Evan Thorson et al. Docket No.: 19519  
Serial No.: 10/734,843 Group No.: Unknown  
Confirmation No.: Unknown Examiner: Unknown  
Filed: December 12, 2003 Date: March 12, 2004  
For: METHOD OF FORMING A WAIST BAND ON AN ABSORBENT ARTICLE

### Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicants, through and by their attorneys, hereby wish to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached modified PTO 1449 Form. A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and a copy of each non-patent document listed on the form is also presented herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience. Cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not included in accordance with the U.S. Patent Office waiver of the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, and for all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 USC 371 after June 30, 2003.

Applicants also wish to bring the following commonly-assigned pending patent applications to the attention of the Examiner:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/324,664 filed December 20, 2002, by Catherine M. Hancock-Cooke for "ABSORBENT ARTICLE WITH UNITARY ELASTOMERIC WAISTBAND WITH MULTIPLE EXTENSION ZONES."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/324,666 filed December 20, 2002, by Catherine M. Hancock-Cooke et al. for "ABSORBENT ARTICLE WITH AN ELASTIC WAISTBAND HAVING A PREFERRED RATIO OF ELASTIC TO NON-ELASTIC MATERIALS."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/325,500 filed December 19, 2002, by Paul T. Van Gompel et al. for "DISPOSABLE UNDERGARMENT WITH A STRETCHABLE ABSORBENT INSERT AND METHOD FOR THE USE THEREOF."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/414,986 filed April 15, 2003, by Paul T. Van Gompel et al. for "A DISPOSABLE PANT-LIKE UNDERGARMENT."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/449,943 filed May 30, 2003, by Jerome Steven Veith et al. for "A DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLE HAVING AN INTEGRAL WAISTBAND."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/449,988 filed May 30, 2003, by Jerome Steven Veith et al. for "A DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLE AND METHOD OF FORMING THE ARTICLE."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/452,714 filed May 30, 2003, by Paul T. Van Gompel et al. for "A DISPOSABLE PANT-LIKE UNDERGARMENT HAVING AN ELASTIC BAND ADJACENT THE WAIST OPENING."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/612,641 filed July 1, 2003, by Cynthia Dianne Maas et al. for "A DISPOSABLE PANT-LIKE UNDERGARMENT."

These applications are not listed on the accompanying PTO Form 1449; however, copies of these applications are provided herewith.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants in no way admit that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicants recommend that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

Applicants request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicants request that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.

If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97,

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: 920-721-2455.

Respectfully submitted,

RUSSELL EVAN THORSON ET AL.

By: Thomas J. Connelly  
Thomas J. Connelly  
Registration No.: 28,404



### List of Patents and Publications for Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant(s): Russell Evan Thorson et al. Docket No.: 19519  
 Serial No.: 10/734,843 Group: Unknown  
 Filed: December 12, 2003 Examiner: Unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Initials		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	A1	4,031,568	06/28/1977	Huff			
	A2	4,036,233	07/19/1977	Kozak			
	A3	4,059,973	11/29/1977	Gresillon			
	A4	4,227,531	10/14/1980	Mcleod			
	A5	4,300,967	11/17/1981	Sigl			
	A6	4,327,448	05/04/1982	Lunt			
	A7	4,437,860	03/20/1984	Sigl et al.			
	A8	4,450,026	05/22/1984	Pieniak et al.			
	A9	4,486,192	12/04/1984	Sigl			
	A10	4,507,163	03/26/1985	Menard			
	A11	4,543,154	09/24/1985	Reiter			
	A12	4,563,185	01/07/1986	Reiter			
	A13	4,606,964	08/19/1986	Wideman			
	A14	4,610,685	09/09/1986	Raley			
	A15	4,639,949	02/03/1987	Ales et al.			
	A16	4,663,220	05/05/1987	Wisneski et al.			
	A17	4,681,580	07/21/1987	Reising et al.			
	A18	4,707,398	11/17/1987	Boggs			
	A19	4,710,189	12/01/1987	Lash			
	A20	4,720,415	01/19/1988	Vander Wielen et al.			
	A21	4,724,184	02/09/1988	Killian et al.			
	A22	4,741,949	05/03/1988	Morman et al.			
	A23	4,743,241	05/10/1988	Igaue et al.			
	A24	4,747,846	05/31/1988	Boland et al.			
	A25	4,756,709	07/12/1988	Stevens			
	A26	4,770,656	09/13/1988	Proxmire et al.			
	A27	4,789,699	12/06/1988	Kieffer et al.			
	A28	4,808,176	02/28/1989	Kielpikowski			

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with your next communication.

Examiner:

Date Considered:

**List of Patents and Publications for Information Disclosure Statement**

Applicant(s): Russell Evan Thorson et al. Docket No.: 19519  
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<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
<b>Initials</b>		<b>Doc. No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Subclass</b>	<b>Filing Date</b>
	A29	4,816,026	03/28/1989	Richardson			
	A30	4,820,572	04/11/1989	Killian et al.			
	A31	4,863,779	09/05/1989	Daponte			
	A32	4,872,871	10/10/1989	Proxmire et al.			
	A33	4,895,568	01/23/1990	Enloe			
	A34	4,908,247	03/13/1990	Baird et al.			
	A35	4,923,742	05/08/1990	Killian et al.			
	A36	4,940,464	07/10/1990	Van Gompel et al.			
	A37	4,981,747	01/01/1991	Morman			
	A38	5,019,066	05/28/1991	Freeland et al.			
	A39	5,163,932	11/17/1992	Nomura et al.			
	A40	5,169,706	12/08/1992	Collier, IV et al.			
	A41	5,226,992	07/13/1993	Morman			
	A42	5,260,126	11/09/1993	Collier, IV et al.			
	A43	5,288,791	02/22/1994	Collier, IV et al.			
	A44	5,336,545	08/09/1994	Morman			
	A45	5,366,793	11/22/1994	Fitts Jr. et al.			
	A46	5,385,775	01/31/1995	Wright			
	A47	5,486,273	01/23/1996	Widlund et al.			
	A48	5,500,063	03/19/1996	Jessup			
	A49	5,503,908	04/02/1996	Faass			
	A50	5,514,470	05/07/1996	Haffner et al.			
	A51	5,545,158	08/13/1996	Jessup			
	A52	5,554,145	09/10/1996	Roe et al.			
	A53	5,569,232	10/29/1996	Roe et al.			
	A54	5,575,783	11/19/1996	Clear et al.			
	A55	5,601,547	02/11/1997	Kato et al.			
	A56	5,607,416	03/04/1997	Yamamoto et al.			

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Initials		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
A57		5,622,581	04/22/1997	Ducker et al.			
A58		5,669,996	09/23/1997	Jessup			
A59		5,683,376	11/04/1997	Kato et al.			
A60		5,690,627	11/25/1997	Clear et al.			
A61		5,711,832	01/27/1998	Glaug et al.			
A62		5,749,866	05/12/1998	Roe et al.			
A63		5,772,649	06/30/1998	Siudzinski			
A64		5,807,368	09/15/1998	Helmer			
A65		5,827,259	10/27/1998	Laux et al.			
A66		5,836,930	11/17/1998	Lantz et al.			
A67		5,846,232	12/08/1998	Serbiak et al.			
A68		5,855,574	01/05/1999	Kling et al.			
A69		5,876,391	03/02/1999	Roe et al.			
A70		5,904,673	05/18/1999	Roe et al.			
A71		5,904,675	05/18/1999	Laux et al.			
A72		5,906,604	05/25/1999	Ronnberg et al.			
A73		5,916,206	06/29/1999	Otsubo et al.			
A74		5,932,497	08/03/1999	Morman et al.			
A75		5,947,948	09/07/1999	Roe et al.			
A76		5,971,970	10/26/1999	Carl bark et al.			
A77		6,129,720	10/10/2000	Blenke et al.			
A78		6,132,409	10/17/2000	Vogt et al.			
A79		6,135,975	10/24/2000	Johnstone			
A80		6,187,425	02/13/2001	Bell et al.			
A81		6,193,701	02/27/2001	Van Gompel et al.			
A82		6,240,569	06/05/2001	Van Gompel et al.			
A83		6,248,097	06/19/2001	Beitz et al.			
A84		6,264,641	07/24/2001	Van Gompel et al.			

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Initials	Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
A85	6,322,547	11/27/2001	Hansson			
A86	6,322,552	11/27/2001	Blenke et al.			
A87	6,323,389	11/27/2001	Thomas et al.			
A88	6,325,787	12/04/2001	Roe et al.			
A89	6,336,921	01/08/2002	Kato et al.			
A90	6,336,922	01/08/2002	Van Gompel et al.			
A91	6,340,782	01/22/2002	Kling et al.			
A92	6,358,350	03/19/2002	Glaug et al.			
A93	6,361,527	03/26/2002	Van Gompel et al.			
A94	6,375,646	04/23/2002	Widlund et al.			
A95	6,387,471	05/14/2002	Taylor et al.			
A96	6,454,750	09/24/2002	Vogt et al.			
A97	6,464,677	10/15/2002	Noguchi et al.			
A98	6,465,073	10/15/2002	Morman et al.			
A99	6,478,785	11/12/2002	Ashton et al.			
A100	6,482,278	11/19/2002	McCabe et al.			
A101	6,541,679	04/01/2003	Betrabet et al.			
A102	6,551,294	04/22/2003	Elsberg et al.			
A103	6,570,056	05/27/2003	Tanzer et al.			
A104	6,572,601	06/03/2003	Suprise et al.			
A105	6,595,975	07/22/2003	Vogt et al.			
A106	2002/0002021	01/03/2002	May et al.			
A107	2002/0007148	01/17/2002	May et al.			
A108	2002/0007164	01/17/2002	Boggs et al.			
A109	2002/0009940	01/24/2002	May et al.			
A110	2002/0019616	02/14/2002	Thomas			
A111	2002/0104608	08/08/2002	Welch et al.			
A112	2002/0119722	08/29/2002	Welch et al.			

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<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
Initials		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	A113	2002/0169432	11/14/2002	Fell et al.			
	A114	2003/0055389	03/20/2003	Sanders et al.			
	A115	2003/0124303	07/03/2003	Price et al.			
	A116	2003/0135191	07/17/2003	Price et al.			
	A117	2003/0135192	07/17/2003	Guralski et al.			
	A118						

**Foreign Patent Documents**

Initials		Doc. No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Trans.	
							Yes	No
	A1	EP 0 213 642 B1	04/03/1991	Europe			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A2	EP 0 323 634 A2	07/12/1989	Europe			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A3	EP 0 526 868 A2	02/10/1993	Europe			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A4	EP 0 597 331 B1	11/19/1997	Europe			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A5	EP 0 630 221 B2	04/16/1997	Europe			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A6	EP 0 650 714 A1	05/03/1995	Europe			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A7	EP 1 247 505 A2	10/09/2002	Europe			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A8	EP 1 247 506 A2	10/09/2002	Europe			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A9	EP 1 249 214 A2	10/16/2002	Europe			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A10	JP 03-176053 A	07/31/1991	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A11	WO 95/02382 A1	01/26/1995	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A12	WO 95/02383 A1	01/26/1995	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A13	WO 96/11236 A1	04/18/1996	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A14	WO 96/23466 A1	08/08/1996	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A15	WO 96/32083 A1	10/17/1996	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A16	WO 97/23180 A1	07/03/1997	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A17	WO 97/43994 A1	11/27/1997	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A18	WO 98/29251 A1	07/09/1998	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A19	WO 98/53785 A1	12/03/1998	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A20	WO 99/60967 A1	12/02/1999	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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<b>Foreign Patent Documents</b>								
								<b>Trans.</b>
<b>Initials</b>		<b>Doc. No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Subclass</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
	A21	WO 99/60968 A1	12/02/1999	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A22	WO 99/60971 A1	12/02/1999	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A23	WO 99/60972 A1	12/02/1999	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A24	WO 99/60974 A1	12/02/1999	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A25	WO 00/02511 A1	01/20/2000	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A26	WO 00/37005 A2	06/29/2000	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A27	WO 00/39201 A2	07/06/2000	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A28	WO 01/87212 A1	11/22/2001	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A29	WO 02/069871 A1	09/12/2002	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A30	WO 03/017903 A1	03/06/2003	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A31	WO 03/028604 A1	04/10/2003	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A32						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A1						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A2						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other Documents</b>								
<b>Initial</b>		<b>Author, Title, Date, Pages, etc.</b>						
	A1	American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) Designation: D2433-93 (Reapproved 2002), "Standard Test Methods for Rubber Thread," pp. 1-6, published February 2003.						
	A2	American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) Designation: D5459-95, (Reapproved 2001) "Standard Test Method for Machine Direction Elastic Recovery and Permanent Deformation and Stress Retention of Stretch Wrap Film," pp. 731-733, published September 1995.						
	A3							
	A4							
	A5							

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